

To : COMMANDER IN CHIEF
BRITISH ARMY OF THE RHINE .

From : Dr. med. Gisbert Weispfennig and
Frau Grete Weispfennig .
Hamburg.

Date : 3rd November 1945.

PETITION FOR PARDON .

Sir ,

Looking back after all these years, we can say that our son Walter who is now Marineoberstabsarzt, has given us nothing but love and happiness. He was an obedient child, always sunny and cheerful and a popular playmate with his brothers and sisters. At school he was of average intelligence, but he soon won the hearts of his teachers by his amiable and openhearted manner. He was very keen on games, loved gymnastics and skating and was also a capable swimmer. During the summer holidays he took part in courses , run by the Yachting Club, at Chiemsee and Neustadt. In those days he was filled with admiration for his instructing officer, Kapitän v. Killinger. After his final school examinations he wanted to become a naval officer, but we asked him to take up medicine instead, since all his ancestors had been in the medical profession, besides he seemed just cut out to become a doctor, being so very kind-hearted and always ready to help those in need. We were only too happy when he decided to become a naval surgeon,

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thereby combining his love of the sea with his other great abilities. It gave us great pleasure to hear of his promotions in the Navy and he always made a point of expressing his deepest gratitude to us, for the upbringing and education which we gave him. We taught all our children to believe in God and to love Christ, - a faith to which our son always clung with his innermost heart.

We think it quite impossible that a man like him could ever act so low and ignominiously. We are both old and broken down with grief, Sir, - I am over 81 years of age, - and we beg and entreat you with all our heart to grant pardon to our beloved son.

We remain,

Sir,

Your obedient servants

*H. med. Gisbert Weisfenning,
Friedr. Lore Weisfenning.*